REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully requested. By this Amendment, Applicant has canceled claim 3. Thus, claims 1-2, 4-6, and 8-19 are now pending in the application. Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims define patentable subject matter.

As a preliminary matter, Applicant notes that it appears the Examiner inadvertently did not check box (12) on the Office Action Summary in connection with acknowledgement of the claim for foreign priority. Accordingly, the Examiner fully acknowledge the claim for foreign priority in the next action.

The drawings are objected to under because the Examiner maintains that the drawings do not show limitation of "the voice mailbox of the user mobile telecommunication terminal" as recited in the claims. Referring to Figs. 2A-2D, the Examiner notes that only labeled on the Voice Mail Server side is provided with the label "(voice mailbox)". Applicant is submitting replacement drawings for Figs. 2A-2D which include the label "(voice mailbox)" under the label "User Terminal". Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to remove the objection to the drawings.

The specification is objected to because of a grammatical informality. By this Amendment, Applicant has amended the specification to address the Examiner's objection. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to remove the objection to the drawings.

Claims 1, 5, 11, 13, 15, 16, 18 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Gallant et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,802,466; hereafter "Gallant"). Claims 2, 3, 6, 7, 9

-16-

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Applicant is submitting replacement drawings for FIGs. 2A - 2D which include the label

"(voice mailbox)" under the label "User Terminal".

Attachment: 4 Replacement Sheets

and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gallant in view of

Alanara (U.S. Patent No. 5,604,921). Claims 4, 8, 10, 12 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §

103(a) as being unpatentable over Gallant in view of Alanara and Houlde et al. (U.S. Patent No.

5,920,822; hereafter "Houlde").

Gallant discloses a system and method for notifying mobile subscribers of the status of

messages in a voice mailbox. As shown in Figure 1, a personal communication network system

100 includes a public switched network (PSN) 102 connected to a voice mail system (VMS) 104

having a mailbox 112 for each subscriber to the voice mail service, a short message system

(SMS) 103, a Home Location Register (HLR) 105 and a personal communication network (PCN)

106. The PCN 106 includes a mobile switch service center (MSC) 108, a plurality of base

station controllers (BSC) 110 connected to the MSC 108, and a plurality of base transceiver

stations (BTS) 114 each connected to one of the BSCs 110 and communicating via a wireless

communications link 116 with a plurality of personal communication devices (PCD) 118. When

a call to PCD 118 cannot be completed because (for example, PCD 118 is turned off, located

outside the region covered by PCN 106 or is busy), the call is directed to VMS 104 if the called

mobile subscriber subscribes to the voice mail service provided by VMS 104 for recording a

voice mail message. Calls received by VMS 104 are directed to the appropriate mailbox 112.

When a voice mail message is left by a caller, a signal is sent from the VMS 104 to the SMS 103

indicating that a message has been received. The SMS 103 then sends to the PCD 118

notification indicating that a message has been received. Further, the VMS 104 and SMS 103

may send notifications to the PCD 118 when the mailbox becomes full, becomes empty, exceeds

a predetermined percentage-full threshold, and receives a message having message priority

information.

Alanara discloses a method for operating a radiotelephone for receiving digitally encoded

broadcast messages from a radio channel. The method includes a first step of operating a user

interface (19, 20, 22) for inputting information to a controller (20) of the radiotelephone, the

information specifying at least one category of broadcast message to be received. In response to

the inputted information, a second step receives a broadcast message that belongs to the at least

one category. A third step stores all or a portion of the received message in a memory (21) of the

radiotelephone. A fourth step selectively displays (19) all or a portion of the stored message. In

a presently preferred embodiment of this invention the message is received from a short message

service broadcast channel.

<u>Independent Claims 1, 5, 15 and 16</u>

By this Amendment, Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 15 and 16 to

incorporate the subject matter of dependent claim 3, i.e., "the short message comprises a message

identifier of the new or previously stored voice message stored in the voice mailbox of the voice

mail server". Further, Applicant has rewritten dependent claim 2 in independent form. Claim 2

requires that "the short message comprises at least one of a message identifier of a voice message

which was changed from a new state to a stored state, and a message identifier which was

deleted from a new state or a stored state in the voice mailbox of the voice mail server."

As conceded by the Examiner, Gallant does not teach or suggest that the short message sent from the voice mail server to the user terminal includes a message identifier of a message stored in the voice mailbox of the voice mail server. Although the Examiner cites Alanara (at column 5, lines 24-26 and Fig. 2, step "I") for allegedly disclosing "using message ID[s]" in support of the rejection of claims 2, 3, 6, 7, 9 and 17, Applicant respectfully submits that it is quite clear that Alanara does not teach or suggest providing a message identifier of a message stored in the voice mailbox of the voice mail server in a short message sent to a user terminal (from a voice mail server), or provide any motivation to modify Gallant to include this feature.

Alanara discloses a conventional SMS Broadcast message includes a category field which is coded to provide different types of message category identifiers (e.g., emergency numbers, road-side information, toll gate information, airline departure/arrival information, weather-related information, news, and financial information). If a scan for selected messages function is enabled at the mobile terminal, all message headers belonging to a user-selected category list (e.g., news information, financial information, etc.) are indicated to the controller (20), and after selection of a specific message ID, the controller (20) will receive and store the complete message and, optionally, also some predetermined number (e.g., 5) of subsequent messages. After the messages have been stored in the message memory 21, the user is enabled to read the stored messages using a scroll key function found on the keypad (22).

Accordingly, Alanara simply discloses that SMS message may include a message category identifier indicating the type/category of information that is included in the data field of the SMS message. In other words, the message category identifier utilized by Alanara identifies

the data contents of the sent SMS message rather than another message which is stored

elsewhere awaiting transmission to the user terminal. Thus, Alanara provides no motivation for

one skilled in the art to include a message identifier of <u>a message stored in the voice mailbox of</u>

<u>the voice mail server</u> in a short message sent to a user terminal.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1, 2, 15 and 16, as

well as dependent claim 4, should be allowable because the cited references do not teach or

suggest all of the features of the claims, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not have been

motivated to combine and modify the cited references to produce the claimed invention.

Independent Claims 9 and 17

The Examiner concedes that Gallant does not teach or suggest that assigning a message

identifier for a new message received and stored in the voice mailbox of the voice mail server

and sending a short message sent from the voice mail server to the user terminal which includes

the message identifier of a message stored in the voice mailbox of the voice mail server.

However, the Examiner cites Alanara (at column 5, lines 24-26 and Fig. 2, step "I") for allegedly

disclosing "using message ID[s]" and asserts that "[i]t is inherent that: (b) assigning and storing

message ID[s] to new messages must ... exist ID[s are] needed to be assigned and stored before

be[ing] used."

As discussed above, Alanara simply discloses that SMS message may include a message

category identifier indicating the type/category of information that is included in the data field of

<u>the SMS message</u>. In other words, the message category identifier utilized by Alanara identifies

the data contents of the sent SMS message rather than another message which is stored

elsewhere awaiting transmission to the user terminal.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 9 and 17, as well as

dependent claim 10, should be allowable because Alanara provides no motivation for one skilled

in the art to include a message identifier of <u>a message stored in the voice mailbox of the voice</u>

<u>mail server</u> in a short message sent to a user terminal notifying the user terminal that the message

is stored in the voice mailbox of the voice mail server.

Independent Claims 11, 13, 18 and 19

The Examiner asserts that Gallant discloses all of the features of claims 11, 13, 18 and

19. However, Applicant respectfully submits that it is quite clear that Gallant does not teach or

suggest transmitting an Short Message Service (SMS) message from the user terminal to the

voice mail server (or receiving an SMS message from the user terminal at the voice mail server)

indicating a modification of information regarding a message stored in the voice mailbox of the

user terminal, as required by amended claims 11, 13, 18 and 19.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 11, 13, 18 and 19,

as well as dependent claims 12 and 14, should be allowable because cited reference does not

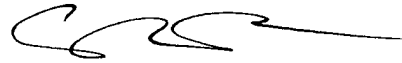teach or suggest all of the features of the claims.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed

to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the

-21-

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Patent Application No. 09/695,997

Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is

kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue

Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any

overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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-22-